

What is claimed is:

1. A linked contents browsing support method which supports, via an object which has a linked destination, browsing of linked contents which  
5 are contents connected to the object, comprising:

a step in which a mouse event observation section observes a mouse event of a mouse cursor upon a screen of an information device by a user, and detects from the mouse event that the mouse cursor has entered into a region of the object which has the linked destination;

10 a step in which, in response to the fact that the mouse event observation section has detected that the mouse cursor has entered into the region of the object which has the linked destination, a window display section displays a new window upon the screen;

a step in which a linked contents acquisition section acquires  
15 linked contents which are connected to the object for which it has been detected by the mouse event observation section that the region has been entered into; and

a step in which a linked contents presentation section creates contents for presentation based upon the linked contents which have been  
20 acquired, and displays the created contents for presentation within the new window which has been displayed upon the screen.

2. A linked contents browsing support method as described in Claim 1, further comprising a step in which a contents processing section performs

a summarizing or editing procedure of the linked contents which have been acquired by the linked contents acquisition section, based upon a contents conversion rule for summarizing or editing contents in a display format or style,

5           and wherein the linked contents presentation section displays the contents upon which the summarizing or editing procedure has been performed by the contents processing section within the new window as the contents for presentation.

10       3. A linked contents browsing support method as described in Claim 2, further comprising a step of the mouse event observation section detecting the fact that the mouse cursor has been put on an object which has the linked destination, and deciding that the mouse cursor has entered into a region of an object which has the linked destination.

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4. A linked contents browsing support method as described in Claim 2, further comprising:

          a step of the window display section, when the mouse event occurs, utilizing an anchor position acquisition section to acquire the position  
20   upon the screen of the object into the region of which the mouse cursor has entered;

          a step of the window display section utilizing a display size calculation section to acquire the display size for the window in which the object is displayed, and to calculate a display size for the new window  
25   which displays the contents for presentation which correspond to the

object, based upon the display size which has been acquired; and

a step of the window display section utilizing a display position derivation section to derive a display position upon the screen of the new window, based upon the position upon the screen of the object which has  
5 been acquired by the anchor position acquisition section, upon the display size of the new window which has been calculated by the display size calculation section, upon the display position upon the screen of the window in which the object is displayed, and upon the display direction of the new window,

10 and wherein the window display section displays the new window in the display position which has been derived by the display position derivation section.

5. A linked contents browsing support method as described in Claim 1,  
15 further comprising a step of the linked contents presentation section, in response to an action by the user with respect to the new window, utilizing a window control section to perform window control corresponding to the action.

20 6. A linked contents browsing support method as described in Claim 5, further comprising a step of, after the contents for presentation have been displayed within the new window, the window control section, in response to a window closing request from the user, closing the new window when the mouse cursor has come to be no longer put upon the new window.

7. A linked contents browsing support method as described in Claim 5, further comprising a step of the window control section, after the contents for presentation have been displayed within the new window, responding to operation of a mouse wheel by the user, and scrolling the contents for presentation which are being displayed within the new window in accordance with rotation of the wheel.

8. A linked contents browsing support method as described in Claim 5, further comprising a step of the window control section, after the contents for presentation have been displayed within the new window, responding to mouse movement operation to within the new window by the user, and establishing a state in which an object which has a linked destination within the new window can be selected.

9. A linked contents browsing support method as described in Claim 5, further comprising a step of the window control section, after the contents for presentation have been displayed within the new window, responding to an action by the user which has been determined upon in advance, and, along with closing all the windows in which the contents for presentation are being displayed, displays, using an application which corresponds to a data format of contents to be displayed, the contents for presentation which have been displayed within the window which the action by the user, which has been determined upon in advance, has generated or the linked contents which are the source for the contents for presentation, within a window which is newly opened upon the screen by the

application.

10. A linked contents browsing support method as described in Claim 5, further comprising a step of the mouse event observation section

5 detecting the fact that the mouse cursor has been put on an object which has the linked destination, and deciding that the mouse cursor has entered into a region of an object which has the linked destination.

11. A linked contents browsing support method as described in Claim 5, further comprising:

a step of the window display section, when the mouse event occurs, utilizing an anchor position acquisition section to acquire the position upon the screen of the object into the region of which the mouse cursor has entered;

15 a step of the window display section utilizing a display size calculation section to acquire the display size for the window in which the object is displayed, and to calculate a display size for the new window which displays the contents for presentation which correspond to the object, based upon the display size which has been acquired; and

20 a step of the window display section utilizing a display position derivation section to derive a display position upon the screen of the new window, based upon the position upon the screen of the object which has been acquired by the anchor position acquisition section, upon the display size of the new window which has been calculated by the display size calculation section, upon the display position upon the screen of the

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window in which the object is displayed, and upon the display direction of the new window,

and wherein the window display section displays the new window in the display position which has been derived by the display position  
5 derivation section.

12. A linked contents browsing support method as described in Claim 1, further comprising a step of the mouse event observation section detecting the fact that the mouse cursor has been put on an object which  
10 has the linked destination, and deciding that the mouse cursor has entered into a region of an object which has the linked destination.

13. A linked contents browsing support method as described in Claim 12, further comprising:

15 a step of the window display section, when the mouse event occurs, utilizing an anchor position acquisition section to acquire the position upon the screen of the object into the region of which the mouse cursor has entered;

a step of the window display section utilizing a display size  
20 calculation section to acquire the display size for the window in which the object is displayed, and to calculate a display size for the new window which displays the contents for presentation which correspond to the object, based upon the display size which has been acquired; and

a step of the window display section utilizing a display position  
25 derivation section to derive a display position upon the screen of the new

window, based upon the position upon the screen of the object which has been acquired by the anchor position acquisition section, upon the display size of the new window which has been calculated by the display size calculation section, upon the display position upon the screen of the  
5 window in which the object is displayed, and upon the display direction of the new window,

and wherein the window display section displays the new window in the display position which has been derived by the display position derivation section.

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14. A linked contents browsing support method as described in Claim 1, further comprising a step of the linked contents presentation section, when displaying the contents for presentation within the new window, increasing or decreasing the display magnification ratio in accordance  
15 with the size of the new window.

15. A linked contents browsing support method as described in Claim 1, further comprising:

a step of the window display section, when the mouse event occurs,  
20 utilizing an anchor position acquisition section to acquire the position upon the screen of the object into the region of which the mouse cursor has entered;

a step of the window display section utilizing a display size calculation section to acquire the display size for the window in which  
25 the object is displayed, and to calculate a display size for the new window

which displays the contents for presentation which correspond to the object, based upon the display size which has been acquired; and

a step of the window display section utilizing a display position derivation section to derive a display position upon the screen of the new window, based upon the position upon the screen of the object which has been acquired by the anchor position acquisition section, upon the display size of the new window which has been calculated by the display size calculation section, upon the display position upon the screen of the window in which the object is displayed, and upon the display direction of the new window,

and wherein the window display section displays the new window in the display position which has been derived by the display position derivation section.

16. A linked contents browsing support method as described in Claim 15, further comprising:

a step of the window display section, when displaying the new window in the display position which has been derived by the display position derivation section, recording a window number which indicates the display order of the windows which are being displayed upon the screen in a window management table in the order of window display; and

a step of the linked contents presentation section utilizing a window control section to detect that the mouse cursor has moved from the new window which has been popped up last to within any one of the windows which are recorded in the window management table, and, based



upon the window numbers which are stored in the window management table, closing the other windows, other than the window after movement, among the windows which have been displayed in order from the window after movement to the new window which has been displayed last.

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17. A linked contents browsing support method as described in Claim 16, wherein the window control section does not perform the window closing when the mouse cursor has returned to the window which has been popped up last, until a predetermined time period has elapsed from detecting that  
10 the mouse cursor has moved to the window after movement.

18. A linked contents browsing support method as described in Claim 16, further comprising:

a step of the display position derivation section taking the display  
15 position upon the screen of the object as an origin, and detecting a point upon a predetermined direction line for which, if the point upon the direction line is taken as the central position of the new window, the entire region of the new window is displayed upon the screen;

a step of the display position derivation section detecting, from  
20 among the points which have been detected, a point for which a window for which this point has been taken as the central position is not put upon the object; and

a step of the display position derivation section determining a display position upon the screen of the new window, based upon the point  
25 for which the window is not put upon the object.

19. A linked contents browsing support method as described in Claim 18, further comprising a step of the display position derivation section, if it has not been possible to detect a point for which the window is not put  
5 upon the object, shifting the predetermined direction line by a predetermined angle each time, and detecting a point upon the direction line for which the entire region of the new window is displayed upon the screen.

10 20. A linked contents browsing support method as described in Claim 15, further comprising:

a step of the display position derivation section taking the display position upon the screen of the object as an origin, and detecting a point upon a predetermined direction line for which, if the point upon the  
15 direction line is taken as the central position of the new window, the entire region of the new window is displayed upon the screen;

a step of the display position derivation section detecting, from among the points which have been detected, a point for which a window for which this point has been taken as the central position is not put upon  
20 the object; and

a step of the display position derivation section determining a display position upon the screen of the new window, based upon the point for which the window is not put upon the object.

25 21. A linked contents browsing support method as described in Claim 20,

further comprising a step of the display position derivation section, if it has not been possible to detect a point for which the window is not put upon the object, shifting the predetermined direction line by a predetermined angle each time, and detecting a point upon the direction  
5 line for which the entire region of the new window is displayed upon the screen.

22. A linked contents browsing support method as described in Claim 21, further comprising a step of the display position derivation section, if it  
10 is not possible to derive a display position in which the entire region of the new window is displayed upon the screen and the new window is not put upon the object, changing the display direction of the new window, deriving a display position in which the entire region of the new window is displayed upon the screen, and determining a display position for which  
15 the size of the region of the object which is hidden by the new window when the new window has been displayed in each of the display positions is the minimum, as the display position for the new window.

23. A linked contents browsing support method as described in Claim 21,  
20 further comprising a step of the display position derivation section, if it is not possible to derive a display position in which the new window does not hide the entire region of the object, demagnifying the size of the new window in a stepwise manner, and deriving a display position in which the entire region of the new window is displayed upon the screen and the  
25 new window does not hide the object.

24. A linked contents browsing support device which supports, via an object which has a linked destination, browsing of linked contents which are contents connected to the object, comprising:

5           a mouse event observation section which observes a mouse event of a mouse cursor upon a screen of an information device by a user, and detects from the mouse event that the mouse cursor has entered into a region of the object which has the linked destination;

          a window display section which responds to the fact that the  
10   mouse event observation section has detected that the mouse cursor has entered into the region of the object which has the linked destination, and displays a new window upon the screen;

          a linked contents acquisition section which acquires linked contents which are connected to the object for which it has been detected  
15   by the mouse event observation section that the region has been entered into; and

          a linked contents presentation section which creates contents for presentation based upon the linked contents which have been acquired, and displays the created contents for presentation within the new window  
20   which has been displayed upon the screen.

25. A linked contents browsing support device as described in Claim 24, further comprising a contents processing section which performs an summarizing or editing procedure of the linked contents which have been  
25   acquired, based upon a contents conversion rule for summarizing or

editing contents in a display format or style,

and wherein the linked contents presentation section displays the contents upon which the summarizing or editing procedure has been performed by the contents processing section within the new window as  
5 the contents for presentation.

26. A linked contents browsing support device as described in Claim 24, wherein the linked contents presentation section comprises a window control section which responds to an action by the user with respect to the  
10 new window, and performs window control corresponding to the action.

27. A linked contents browsing support device as described in Claim 24, wherein the mouse event observation section detects the fact that the mouse cursor has been put on an object which has the linked destination,  
15 and decides that the mouse cursor has entered into a region of an object which has the linked destination.

28. A linked contents browsing support device as described in Claim 24, wherein the window display section comprises:

20 an anchor position acquisition section which, when the mouse event occurs, acquires the position upon the screen of the object into the region of which the mouse cursor has entered;

a display size calculation section which acquires the display size for the window in which the object is displayed, and calculates a display  
25 size for the new window which displays the contents for presentation

which correspond to the object, based upon the display size which has been acquired; and

5 a display position derivation section which derives a display position upon the screen of the new window, based upon the position upon the screen of the object which has been acquired by the anchor position acquisition section, upon the display size of the new window which has been calculated by the display size calculation section, upon the display position upon the screen of the window in which the object is displayed, and upon the display direction of the new window,

10 and wherein the new window is displayed in the display position which has been derived by the display position derivation section.

29. A linked contents browsing support program which supports, via an object which has a linked destination, browsing of linked contents which  
15 are contents connected to the object, comprising:

a step of making a mouse event observation section observe a mouse event of a mouse cursor upon a screen of an information device by a user, and of making the mouse event observation section detect the fact that the mouse cursor has entered into a region of the object which has  
20 the linked destination, based on the mouse event;

a step of, in response to the fact that the mouse event observation section has detected that the mouse cursor has entered into the region of the object which has the linked destination, making a window display section display a new window upon the screen;

25 a step of making a linked contents acquisition section acquire

linked contents which are connected to the object for which it has been detected by the mouse event observation section that the region has been entered into; and

5 a step of making a linked contents presentation section create contents for presentation based upon the linked contents which have been acquired, and of making the linked contents presentation section display the created contents for presentation within the new window which has been displayed upon the screen.

10 30. A linked contents browsing support program as described in Claim 29, further comprising a step of making a contents processing section perform a summarizing or editing procedure of the linked contents which have been acquired by the linked contents acquisition section, based upon a contents conversion rule for summarizing or editing contents in a display  
15 format or style,

and wherein the linked contents presentation section is made to display the contents upon which the summarizing or editing procedure has been performed by the contents processing section within the new window as the contents for presentation.

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31. A linked contents browsing support program as described in Claim 29, further comprising a step of, in response to an action by the user with respect to the new window, making the linked contents presentation section perform window control corresponding to the action, by utilizing  
25 a window control section.

32. A linked contents browsing support program as described in Claim 29,  
further comprising a step of making the mouse event observation section  
detect the fact that the mouse cursor has been put on an object which has  
5 the linked destination, and making the mouse event observation section  
decide that the mouse cursor has entered into a region of an object which  
has the linked destination.

33. A linked contents browsing support program as described in Claim 29,  
10 further comprising:

a step of, when the mouse event occurs, making the window  
display section acquire the position upon the screen of the object into the  
region of which the mouse cursor has entered, by utilizing an anchor  
position acquisition section;

15 a step of making the window display section acquire the display  
size for the window in which the object is displayed by utilizing a display  
size calculation section, and making the window display section calculate  
a display size for the new window which displays the contents for  
presentation which correspond to the object by using the display size  
20 calculation section, based upon the display size which has been acquired;  
and

a step of making the window display section derive a display  
position upon the screen of the new window by utilizing a display  
position derivation section, based upon the position upon the screen of  
25 the object which has been acquired by the anchor position acquisition



section, upon the display size of the new window which has been calculated by the display size calculation section, upon the display position upon the screen of the window in which the object is displayed, and upon the display direction of the new window;

- 5           and making the window display section display the new window in the display position which has been derived by the display position derivation section.

34. A computer readable recording medium upon which is recorded a  
10 linked contents browsing support program which supports, via an object which has a linked destination, browsing of linked contents which are contents connected to the object, the linked contents browsing support program comprising:

- a step of making a mouse event observation section observe a  
15 mouse event of a mouse cursor upon a screen of an information device by a user, and of making the mouse event observation section detect the fact that the mouse cursor has entered into a region of the object which has the linked destination, based on the mouse event;

- a step of, in response to the fact that the mouse event observation  
20 section has detected that the mouse cursor has entered into the region of the object which has the linked destination, making a window display section display a new window upon the screen;

- a step of making a linked contents acquisition section acquire  
linked contents which are connected to the object for which it has been  
25 detected by the mouse event observation section that the region has been

entered into; and

a step of making a linked contents presentation section create contents for presentation based upon the linked contents which have been acquired, and of making the linked contents presentation section display  
5 the created contents for presentation within the new window which has been displayed upon the screen.

35. A computer readable recording medium as described in Claim 34, wherein the linked contents browsing support program further comprises a  
10 step of making a contents processing section perform a summarizing or editing procedure of the linked contents which have been acquired by the linked contents acquisition section, based upon a contents conversion rule for summarizing or editing contents in a display format or style,

and wherein the linked contents presentation section is made to  
15 display the contents upon which the summarizing or editing procedure has been performed by the contents processing section within the new window as the contents for presentation.

36. A computer readable recording medium as described in Claim 34,  
20 wherein the linked contents browsing support program further comprises a step of, in response to an action by the user with respect to the new window, making the linked contents presentation section perform window control corresponding to the action, by utilizing a window control section.

37. A computer readable recording medium as described in Claim 34,  
wherein the linked contents browsing support program further comprises a  
step of making the mouse event observation section detect the fact that  
the mouse cursor has been put on an object which has the linked  
5 destination, and making the mouse event observation section decide that  
the mouse cursor has entered into a region of an object which has the  
linked destination.

38. A computer readable recording medium as described in Claim 34,  
10 wherein the linked contents browsing support program further comprises:

a step of, when the mouse event occurs, making the window  
display section acquire the position upon the screen of the object into the  
region of which the mouse cursor has entered, by utilizing an anchor  
position acquisition section;

15 a step of making the window display section acquire the display  
size for the window in which the object is displayed by utilizing a display  
size calculation section, and making the window display section calculate  
a display size for the new window which displays the contents for  
presentation which correspond to the object by using the display size  
20 calculation section, based upon the display size which has been acquired;  
and

a step of making the window display section derive a display  
position upon the screen of the new window by utilizing a display  
position derivation section, based upon the position upon the screen of  
25 the object which has been acquired by the anchor position acquisition

section, upon the display size of the new window which has been calculated by the display size calculation section, upon the display position upon the screen of the window in which the object is displayed, and upon the display direction of the new window;

- 5           and making the window display section display the new window in the display position which has been derived by the display position derivation section.